

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/NM:DHERNST:BB

APPROVED BY EUR/SE - MR. EAGLETON

S/NM:SBVANCE

EUR/SE:BHIRSHORN

S/S: MR. EALUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 110926

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS

FOR AMBASSADOR MACOMBER

1. AS YOU KNOW, STEN MARTENS, THE HEAD OF THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL, HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH TURKISH AMBASSADOR KIRCA OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS ON THE DETAILS OF A UN STANDBY COMPENSATION FUND TO BE DRAWN ON SHOULD INCOME FROM THE CURRENT TURKISH POPPY CROP NOT PROVIDE A REMUNERATION TO THE TURKISH FARMER EQUIVALENT TO THAT HE WOULD HAVE RECEIVED HAD THE INCISION PROCESS BEEN USED INSTEAD OF THE STRAW PROCESS. WE HAD HOPED THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETED A MONTH OR SO AGO IN ORDER THAT THE TURKISH FARMERS COULD BE TOLD THEY MAY EXPECT A FAIR PRICE, AND HENCE NOT BE TEMPTED TO EVADE TURKISH CONTROLS AND DEAL WITH THE DRUG

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TRAFFICKERS. THE TALKS NOW APPEAR TO BE BOGGED DOWN

IN ANKARA AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE INCLINATION AT THE BUREAUCRATIC LEVEL THERE IS NEGATIVE.

2. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT AT THIS LATE DATE THE FAILURE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY TO ANNOUNCE THE PRICE TO THE

FARMER MAY JEOPARDIZE AN ADEQUATE CONTROL SYSTEM. WHILE WE WISH TO STAY OUT OF THE NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE UN AND THE TURKS, WE BELIEVE YOUR INTERVENTION MIGHT NONETHELESS BE ABLE TO RAISE CONSIDERATION OF THIS NEGOTIATION TO A HIGHER POLITICAL LEVEL IN ANKARA. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR DISCUSSING THIS MATTER AT AN APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL IN THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, EXPRESSING OUR HOPE FOR AN EARLY AND SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. INGERSOLL

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